Today's News

BCBSM Updates Prescriber Prescription Block Policy

Type of Eye Exam or Evaluation Determines Whether Cost Sharing Applies

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BCBSM Updates Prescriber Prescription Block Policy

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan has updated its Prescriber Prescription Block Policy. The policy (effective Sept. 1, 2013) was announced in the June 2013 edition of The Record.

Criteria under which a physician may be recommended for the Prescriber Prescription Block Program include:

- Any felony or misdemeanor conviction, guilty plea, plea of nolo contendere or placement in a diversion program for any crime related to the payment of pharmacy claims involving BCBSM, Medicare, Medicaid and other health care insurers.
- Continuing to be noncompliant in their prescribing patterns after documented notification by BCBSM, law enforcement or any government agency.
- Demonstrating a pattern of prescribing medications that are significantly aberrant from their peers with similar board certifications as confirmed by data and expert medical consultant opinion.
- Consistently prescribing medications or combinations of medications that have been shown to put patients at high risk for overdose or death as confirmed by an expert medical consultant.
- Demonstrating a pattern of billing for services not rendered or not medically necessary as documented by internal or external investigations.
- Refusing access to records, which substantiate the medical necessity for the services rendered, and which are essential for BCBSM to determine its liability.

For more information, see the updated Prescription Block Policy.

Type of Eye Exam or Evaluation Determines Whether Cost Sharing Applies

BCBSM would like to clarify the difference between a complete routine eye exam, in which a cost sharing applies, and a visual acuity screening and brief vision evaluation where cost sharing is waived for children of General Motors salaried active members. (See details on age ranges at end of this article.)
Benefit policy
GM salaried active members and General Motors Manufacturing SubSystems are allowed one routine eye exam per calendar year under the medical benefit when reported with specified diagnosis codes and when performed by either an optometrist or ophthalmologist in an office setting or skilled nursing facility. Cost sharing is applied to the service. The procedure and diagnosis codes are listed below:

Procedure codes:

Diagnosis codes:
V72.0, V80.0, V80.2, 367.0, 367.1, 367.20, 367.21, 367.22, 367.31, 367.32, 367.4, 367.51, 367.52, 367.53, 367.81, 367.89, 367.9, 368.03

A vision acuity screening and vision evaluation test are a benefit for all groups** covered by plans under the Affordable Care Act. Cost sharing is waived for children of GM salaried active members when services are provided by in-network providers as follows:

*99172 - Visual acuity screening — for children under age 5
*99173 - Brief vision evaluation — for children through age 21
**This does not include Manufacturing SubSystems as they are a grandfathered group.

If you have additional questions, please contact your BCBSM Provider Consultant.

WPS Medicare Website Satisfaction Survey
Help WPS ensure customer satisfaction with the WPS Medicare website by completing the Website Customer Satisfaction Survey that pops up when you are at the wpsmedicare.com website. This survey applies to the wpsmedicare.com website only, so please do not include feedback regarding the CMS Secure Net Access Portal (C-SNAP) or the CMS website.

WPS encourages all Medicare physicians and staff to complete this quick survey every 30 days. Medicare Beneficiaries and other Medicare Contractors (such as Zone Program Integrity Contractors) should not complete the survey. It's intended to gauge the satisfaction of Medicare physicians and their staff.

Survey results are used to help WPS determine what's working, what's not working, and what new features customers are looking for on the wpsmedicare.com website. This feedback directly influences the layout, navigation, content and other aspects of the WPS Medicare website.

Let WPS know what you like and what they can improve to make the website experience better. Customer feedback is extremely important to WPS, the physician community, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

For more information about reimbursement issues, contact Stacie Saylor, CPC, CPB, at MSMS at (517) 336-5722 or ssaylor@msms.org. For news and information, visit www.msms.org where you can read Medigram and Michigan Medicine online.